



# LINCOLN CHAFEE U.S. SENATOR RHODE ISLAND

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **R.I. HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONS RECEIVE GRANT AWARDS**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee announced today that the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded funding to four Rhode Island historical institutions. Locations include Blithewold Mansion, Gardens and Arboretum in Bristol, Tomaquag Indian Memorial Museum in Exeter, the Rhode Island Historical Society in Providence, and the Little Compton Historical Society. Awards will be allocated under both the Conservation Assessment and the Museum Assessment Programs of the IMLS.

“Rhode Island’s historical institutions are important resources for educating future generations about the events that have shaped our state, and these grants are essential to their preservation. In addition, these sites are important tourist attractions, earning revenue for Rhode Island’s cities and towns,” Senator Chafee said. “I am pleased that the Institute of Museum and Library Services has recognized the historical value of these sites and the need for their protection,” Chafee continued.

Under the Conservation Assessment Program, funds will be provided to Blithewold Mansion (\$7,730), Tomaquag Indian Memorial Museum (\$7,890), and the RI Historical Society (\$7,750). The monies will be used to fund a two-day visit by a conservation professional who will provide an overall assessment of the institution’s conservation efforts. This program aims to raise the visibility of conservation as the cornerstone of museum practice. The program takes a holistic view of conservation practice that builds from assessment to treatment and preservation, while encouraging excellence in each area.

Additionally, the Little Compton Historical Society has been awarded \$3,820 as part of the Museum Assessment Program. Funds will be used to provide technical assistance that will allow the museum to better assess its strengths and weaknesses, and plan for the

future. The program targets smaller museums and assists them in making sound managerial decisions. Technical assistance is provided for four types of assessments: institutional, collections management, public dimension, and governance.

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